



**FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION  
COURSE OUTLINE  
Winter 2022**

**COURSE NUMBER:** GRST 457.04

**COURSE NAME:** Roman Comic Drama (Topics in Latin Literature in Translation)

**RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITE:**

Students are strongly advised to have taken **at least two 300-level Greek and Roman Studies courses** with grades of at least "C-".

**CLASSROOM LOCATION:** TI STUDIO C (TI 120)

**CLASS DAYS & TIMES:** (in person) TR 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Craig Maynes

**INSTRUCTOR CONTACT**

**email:** [craig.maynes@ucalgary.ca](mailto:craig.maynes@ucalgary.ca)

**office:** SS 548

**phone:** 403-220-3279

**INSTRUCTOR OFFICE HOURS**

I will make myself available to you as much as possible. Each week, I will drop-in office hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-2:00 p.m. In addition, you may email me to request a one-on-one meeting at a different time.

**EMAIL POLICY:**

All course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email or through the course D2L site. I normally reply within one working day.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

GRST 457.04 is a close examination of a selection of Roman comic plays by Plautus and Terence, with reference also to the Greek plays of Menander. Topics of discussion will include: staging and performance; masks and costumes; representation of gender, sexuality, slavery, and imperialism; our evidence for other forms of Roman comedy, such as mime and farce; influence on later comic dramatists, such as Shakespeare and Molière; and affinity with modern musicals and sitcoms.

Students will prepare for class by reading the plays and taking part in short, online discussion assignments, which will stimulate further in-class discussion. Some classes will involve experimental performance (unrehearsed) of concepts of staging and delivery. Written assignments will exercise students' skills in critical writing and literary research, and the final project includes an option to combine research with creative or performative skills.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate detailed knowledge of the form and content of Roman comic drama.
2. Articulate the social, cultural, and historical influences on the genre of Roman comic drama.
3. Demonstrate awareness of the influence of Roman comedy on later modes of comedy.
4. Express improvement in critical reading skills, and in literary analysis.
5. Express improvement in academic skills, such as research, writing, and collaborative inquiry.

## LEARNING RESOURCES (available at the UofC Bookstore)

Required Texts:

- P. Brown, *Menander: The Plays and Fragments*, Oxford University Press, 2008.
- P. Brown, *Terence: The Comedies*, Oxford University Press, 2009.
- D. Christenson, *Plautus: Casina, Amphitryon, Captivi, Pseudolus*, Focus Publishing, 2008.
- E. Segal, *Plautus: Four Comedies*, Oxford University Press, 1994

## LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AND REQUIREMENTS

Students will require reliable online access for this course. Class announcements, readings, and other materials will be posted to the course D2L site, and critical reading assignments will be conducted through Perusall.com. Students will have to create a (free) account on Perusall in order to complete the reading assignments.

## ASSESSMENT SCHEME

Your final grade in the course will be calculated according to the following components. You do not need to pass each component to pass the course. More details about each component may be found below.

- |   |  |               |
|---|--|---------------|
| • | Introductory Assignment (Jan. 14)                            | 1%            |
| • | 2 Self-Reflection Assignments (Feb. 28, Apr. 12)             | 4% (2% each)  |
| • | 10 Mini Perusall Assignments (throughout term; see schedule) | 20% (2% each) |
| • | Essay 1 (Feb. 18)  | 15%           |
| • | Research Project Proposal (Mar. 18)                          | 5%            |
| • | Essay 2 (Apr. 1)   | 15%           |
| • | Final Research Project (Apr. 19)                             | 30%           |
| • | In-class Preparedness and Participation (throughout term)    | 10%           |

## ASSESSMENT COMPONENTS

**Introductory and Self-Reflection Assignments (5% total):** At the beginning of the course, in a short D2L assignment, students will think about the course objectives and establish their own personal goals for the course. At the mid- and end-points of the course, students will complete short D2L assignments reflecting on their own progress, and providing feedback on their learning experience.

**Mini-Perusall Assignments (20% total):** Perusall.com turns reading assignments into engaging, collective efforts. Most weeks, students will be arranged in groups (a new group every assignment), and will comment on and discuss a short reading online. These mini-discussions will inspire further in-class interaction. Each assignment will be open for a week, and will require students to visit at least twice during the week in order to engage with the reading and each other. The first Perusall assignment will be a practice assignment, and does not count toward the evaluation. Information on creating a free account, how to annotate, and the evaluation of student engagement will be provided in class and on D2L.

**Essays (2 x 15%):** Two short (1250-1500 word) analytical essays will enable students to apply what they have learned from class readings and discussions. Each will involve a choice of topics related to the critical analysis of a play or plays. These are purely analysis assignments, so no additional research will be required. The essays will be submitted through D2L.

**Research Project (35% total):** The term project is a research-based final project on a topic of your choosing. This is meant to be an opportunity to apply your research skills in a creative way, if you desire. You may complete a formal research paper, or choose to express your research in some other way. For example, you might diagram the staging of a Roman comedy, fabricate an element of Roman stage costume, act out a scene of a Roman comedy, or even produce your own Roman comedy. Group projects are possible. A **proposal** will be due on March 18.

**In-class Preparedness and Participation (10%):** Student preparedness and participation are vital to success in this course. Students must come to class having prepared any assigned readings, and be willing and able to discuss the assigned topics and questions. Occasionally, students will be asked to make a brief, informal presentation (for example, a summary of part of a play), or to take part in an (unrehearsed) experimental staging during class.

## TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

### Week 1: Introductions

- Tues. Jan. 11 Introduction to the Course
- Thurs. Jan. 13 Overview of Greek and Roman Comic Drama  
***Pseudolus* Perusall assignment opens**
- Fri. Jan. 14 **Introductory Assignment due at 11:59 p.m.**

### Week 2: Plautus, *Pseudolus*

- Tues. Jan. 18 to be read before class: Plautus, *Pseudolus*
- Wed. Jan. 19 ***Pseudolus* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**
- Thurs. Jan. 20 Discussion Class  
***The Bad-Tempered Man* Perusall assignment opens**

### Week 3: Menander, *The Bad-Tempered Man*

- Tues. Jan. 25 to be read before class: Menander, *The Bad-Tempered Man*
- Wed. Jan. 26 ***The Bad-Tempered Man* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**
- Thurs. Jan. 27 Discussion Class  
***The Pot of Gold* Perusall assignment opens**

Week 4: Plautus, *The Pot of Gold*; and Menander, *The Girl from Samos*

Tues. Feb. 1 to be read before class: Plautus, *The Pot of Gold*

Wed. Feb. 2 ***The Pot of Gold* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**

Thurs. Feb. 3 to be read before class: Menander, *The Girl from Samos*

***The Haunted House* Perusall assignment opens**

Week 5: Plautus, *The Haunted House*; and Menander, fragmentary plays

Tues. Feb. 8 to be read before class: Plautus, *The Haunted House*

Wed. Feb. 9 ***The Haunted House* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**

Thurs. Feb. 10 to be read before class: selected fragmentary plays (see instructions on D2L)

***Casina* Perusall assignment opens**

Week 6: Plautus, *Casina*

Tues. Feb. 15 to be read before class: Plautus, *Casina*

Wed. Feb. 16 ***Casina* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**

Thurs. Feb. 17 Discussion class

***The Braggart Soldier* Perusall assignment opens**

Fri. Feb. 18 **Essay 1 due at 11:59 p.m.**

Week 7 (Feb. 21-25): Term Break

Week 8: Plautus, *The Braggart Soldier*

Mon. Feb. 28 **Self-reflection 1 due by 11:59 p.m.**

Tues. Mar. 1 to be read before class: Plautus, *The Braggart Soldier*

Wed. Mar. 2 ***The Braggart Soldier* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**

Thurs. Mar. 3 Discussion class

***The Brothers Menaechmus* Perusall assignment opens**

Week 9: Plautus, *The Brothers Menaechmus*

Tues. Mar. 8 to be read before class: Plautus, *The Brothers Menaechmus*

Wed. Mar. 9 ***The Brothers Menaechmus* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**

Thurs. Mar. 10 Discussion class

***The Girl from Andros* Perusall assignment opens**

Week 10: Terence, *The Girl from Andros*

Tues. Mar. 15 to be read before class: Terence, *The Girl from Andros*

Wed. Mar. 16 ***The Girl from Andros* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**

Thurs. Mar. 17 Discussion class

***The Mother-in-Law* Perusall assignment opens**

Fri. Mar. 18 **Research Project Proposal due at 11:59 p.m.**

Week 11: Terence, *The Mother-in-Law*

Tues. Mar. 22 to be read before class: Terence, *The Mother-in-Law*

Wed. Mar. 23 ***The Mother-in-Law* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**

Thurs. Mar. 24 Discussion class

***The Eunuch* Perusall assignment opens**

Week 12: Terence, *The Eunuch*

Tues. Mar. 29 to be read before class: Terence, *The Eunuch*

Wed. Mar. 30 ***The Eunuch* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**

Thurs. Mar. 31 Discussion class

***The Brothers* Perusall assignment opens**

Fri. Apr. 1 **Essay 2 due at 11:59 p.m.**

Week 13: Terence, *The Brothers*

Tues. Apr. 5 to be read before class: Terence, *The Brothers*

Wed. Apr. 6 ***The Brothers* Perusall assignment closes at 11:59 p.m.**

Thurs. Apr. 7 Discussion class

Week 14: Course Wrap-up

Tues. Apr. 12 Looking back, Looking forward

**Self-reflection 2 due at 11:59 p.m.**

**Research Project Due by Apr. 19 at 11:59 p.m.**

## EXAMINATIONS

There are no formal exams in this course.

## MISSED OR LATE ASSIGNMENTS

If a student misses a required component of the course, they must contact the instructor as soon as possible. Late assignments will not be accepted without acceptable rationale.

## GRADING

The University's grading system may be found in the calendar by following this link:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html>.

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following grade scheme, usually used with the Department of Classics and Religion:

A+	96 – 100%	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95%	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89%	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84%	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79%	Good performance
B-	70 – 74%	Approaching good performance
C+	65 – 69%	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	60 – 64%	Satisfactory performance
C-	55 – 59%	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	53 – 54%	Marginal pass
D	50 – 52%	Minimal pass
F	0 – 49%	Failure

When the final grade for the course is calculated, the calculated numerical mark will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole number before being converted to a letter grade. It is not necessary to pass each assignment in order to pass the course.

### **EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING**

All written assignments (including, to a lesser extent, written exam responses) will be assessed at least partly on writing skills. Writing skills include not only surface correctness (grammar, punctuation, sentence structure, etc.) but also general clarity and organization. Sources used in research papers must be properly documented. If you need help with your writing, you may use the writing support services in the Learning Commons. For further information, please refer to the official online University of Calgary Calendar, Academic Regulations, E. Course Information, E.2: Writing Across the Curriculum: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html>

### **CONDUCT**

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

### **USE OF INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CLASS**

The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf>

### **COURSE EVALUATIONS AND STUDENT FEEDBACK**

Student feedback will be sought at the end of the course through the standard University Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) and Faculty course evaluation forms. A midterm evaluation may also be included to provide students an opportunity to provide feedback, for the instructor to adjust their approaches to teaching and learning, and to continuously improve the course. Students are welcome to discuss the process and content of the course at any time with the instructor

### **UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS**

#### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

- <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>
- <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

### **ACADEMIC ACCOMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor.

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/).

### **INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY**

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

### **COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

### **SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY**

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

### **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk